

COLOMA CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
May 11, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Kenneth Parrigin called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Coloma Charter Township Hall, Coloma, Michigan. Present for the Township: Supervisor Kenneth Parrigin, Clerk Sandy Kraemer, Treasurer Lance Becht, Trustees Jim Fulton, Jeff Mitchell, Cindy Aviles and Bryan Duffield.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Jim Fulton.

CONSENT AGENDA

Treasurer Becht presented the consent agenda. Treasurer Becht reported the finance committee met and approved April expenses totaling \$221,928.94. Moved by Treasurer Lance Becht, seconded by Trustee Jeff Mitchell, to approve the consent agenda and finance report. ROLL CALL VOTE: Fulton, yes; Becht, yes; Parrigin, yes; Kraemer, yes; Mitchell, yes; Aviles, yes; Duffield, yes. ALL AYES. APPROVED.

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Township Attorney Kevin O'Dowd was on the agenda but cancelled because the Coloma Rod & Gun Club settlement offer was not completed.

Rick Rasmussen from, The Lake Restoration group, stated his group have completed their petitions for the Special Assessment District. They believe they have over the minimum 51% of signatures needed and area land mass to go forward with project. He then introduced Norma Somers who presented a large map which showed 'shaded in areas' of the Coloma Township side of the lake which they have completed. Norma then introduced Angeline Conkin who presented the book of signatures to Clerk Kraemer. Angeline stated this project took many hours to complete and many people worked to get it completed. Tony Bertuca asked if there had been any changes from the original maps. Rick Rasmussen responded "no changes in Coloma Township".

CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk Kraemer received a request from the American Legion Auxiliary Post 362 to distribute Poppies on May 26, 27, & 28 in Coloma Township. Cindy Aviles, seconded by Jeff Mitchell, made a motion to approve the American Legion Auxiliary Post 362 to distribute Poppies on May 26, 27, & 28 in Coloma Township. ROLL CALL VOTE: Becht, yes; Parrigin, yes; Kraemer, yes; Aviles, yes; Duffield, yes; Mitchell, yes; Fulton, yes; ALL AYES. MOTION APPROVED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chana Kniebes, from North Berrien Community Development, reminded everyone about the BBQ & Blues festival coming up on June 11, 2011 from noon to midnight. She also invited everyone to an afterhour for Handmade Treasures on June 2, 2011 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Chana will be traveling to Louisville, Ky to attend the 2011 PGA. She will be with a group of people learning how to prepare for a function this large. In 2012 Harbor Shores, in St. Joseph, will be hosting the PGA and this group hopes to be better prepared to host it by making this trip.

Supervisor Parrigin reported he met with the Berrien County Road Commission and plans are to complete the North Coloma Road project by the end of summer.

Trustee Jim Fulton stated at the Public Hearing, for the Berrien County Gun Range, it was decided to refer it back to the Zoning Board of Appeals for an interpretation of "Gun Club" and what it means.

Treasurer Becht gave the synopsis, for March, on Wastewater Treatment Plant. He stated things are going well.

Chief Pompey presented his April police report. He reviewed some of the activities on his report. He informed the Board he is pleased with the new police car which was in his budget. He also invited everyone to attend the Public Safety Day on May 14, 2011 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at the Coloma High School Parking Lot.

Trustee Jeff Mitchell reported total expenses for the North Berrien Fire & Rescue for April was \$7,837.32. He stated the "Turbo Jet," weighs about 70 pounds and pumps 500 gallons of water per minute, will be an asset to the fire department. He also inquired about "NIMS" and thought the Board should take these classes. After discussion most of the Board has taken these classes. The Board members that haven't taken the classes will inquire as to how they can take them.

Bryan Duffield reported "all is quiet" regarding the Cemetery.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Parrigin asked that all Board members read the previous minutes of each month's Board meeting.

Treasurer Becht has received several bids for the annual audit each coming in with a different bid. He called Hagar Township for reference on Gabridge & Company, from the Grand Rapids area. Hagar stated they use this company and are happy with their work. He tried to call City of Benton Harbor but couldn't get anyone to respond. The annual bid from this Company for Coloma Township is \$7,600.00, which is less than we have paid in the past years when we used Plante & Moran. After discussion Trustee Cindy Aviles, seconded by Trustee Bryan Duffield, made a motion to give Treasurer Lane Becht authorization, on recommendations, of which audit Company to use for the annual audit. ROLL CALL VOTE. Parrigin, yes; Kraemer, yes; Aviles, yes; Duffield, yes; Mitchell, yes; Fulton, yes; Becht, yes. ALL AYES. MOTION APPROVED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Cecil Martin, who lives on Paw Paw Lake, questioned as to why the assessment on his home did not go down this year. Supervisor Parrigin suggested he stop in and see our assessor. There is also the option of going before the Board of Review.

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ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Trustee Cindy Aviles, seconded by Trustee Jim Fulton, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Kraemer, Clerk

Kenneth Parrigin, Supervisor

Date Approved _____